of assistance which have been received can be taken only after these offers have been duly evaluated.

Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works Limited, Asansol

@617. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:
SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a high power committee to examine the prospects of reviving the Hindustan Pilkington Class Works Limited of Asansol which changed several hands during the last ten years and whose 1400 employees are waiting for a final decision in the matter;

(b) whether it is a fact that the nationalised banks and financial institutions are in favour of nationalisation of the unit; and

(c) if so, by what time a decision is likely to be taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) A committee consisting of representative of the State Government of West Bengal, Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India and Grindlays Bank was constituted to consider the offers of varrious private parties who had shown interest in taking over the unit. The entrepreneur whose offer was found suitable by the Committee has not shown interest. The future disposition of the Company has to be decided by banks, financial institutions and the State Government.

(b) and (c) The Central Government have no proposal to take over the management of the undertaking of Hindustan Pilkington Glass Works Ltd. at Asansol under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act or nationalise the unit.

@Previously Unstarred Question 157, transferred from the 25th February, 1986.

Newsprint prices

†618. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal for increasing the newsprint prices;

(b) what will be its likely effect on the newspaper industry and the reading public in general; and

(c) whether Government propose to rectify the situation arising out of the increase in the newsprint prices, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The claims of the indigenous newsprint manufacturers for revision of their ex-mill prices on account of the escalations in the cost of raw materials and other inputs were got examined by the Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices before Government decided to permit the price increase with effect from 31-12-1985. A large part of the escalations in costs claimed by the manufacturers was on account of the increase in working costs for forest raw materials and related taxes, increases in royalties, hikes in power rates and increases in tax on self-generated power. Indigenous newsprint manufacturers are allowed to charge only the normative prices as recommended by BICP.

Apparel Export Promotion Council

619. SHRI GULAM MOHI-UD-DIN-SHAWL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unistarred Question 838 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th November, 1985, regarding the violation of the conditions of the licence granted under Section 25 of the Indian Companies Act, 1956 to the Appearel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi and state:

†Previously Unstarred Question 9 Transferred from the 21st February, 1986.

(a) whether the licence of the Council has been revoked in pursuant of the above answer;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether copies of the correspondence and representations exchanged by the Regional Director Company Law Board, Kanpur with the company after the issue of the Show Cause Notice, dated the 20th November, 1985, are proposed to be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal.

Assets of officers of public sector undertakings

620. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy of Government in regard to the officials, in public sector undertakings, acquiring assets disproportionate to their known sources of income.

(b) how many such cases have been reported so far from units like Coal India, Steel Authority of India Limited, State Trading Corporation, Metals and Mineral Trading Corporation, Oil India, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Projects and Development India Limited, Engineering Projects Limited, Hindustan Steel Construction Limited and similar other giant public sector undertakings; and

(c) whether the officers against whom cases have been reported were suitably prosecuted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM): Part (a) Model Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules, *inter alia* provide that possession of pecuniary resource or property disproportionate to the known sources of income by the employee or on his behalf by another person, which the employee cannot satisfactorily account for, will be treated as misconduct.

Part (b) and (c) Information about the number of cases reported from major public sector units is not readily available. The same is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Bharat Brakes and Valves Limited

621. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation dated, 19th December, 1985 from the Bharat Brakes and Valves Mazdoor Union, 13A. Creek Lane, Calcutta-700014;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) what action Government have taken on the said representation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation contained a study report of the Plant capacity of Bharat Brakes and Valves Ltd., a summary note on the demands of the Union, such as LTA, CCA, HRA and other matters.

(c) and (d) The representation is under examination.

Improvement in telephone service

622. SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the details of the steps so far taken by Government to improve the telephone services, specially the long-distance trunk calls throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Steps taken so far to improve